

103D CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3789

To terminate Federal programs that are not reauthorized by the Congress.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 3, 1994

Mr. GRAMS (for himself, Mr. WALKER, Mr. ARMEY, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. LINDER, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GILCHREST, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Rules, Government Operations, and Ways and Means

A BILL

To terminate Federal programs that are not reauthorized
by the Congress.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Budget Accountability
5 Act of 1994”.

6 **SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS.**

7 (a) TERMINATION OF PROGRAM.—A program of the
8 Federal Government shall terminate—

1 (1) in the case of a program for which a law,
2 other than a law making appropriations, provides a
3 specific period for which amounts are authorized to
4 be appropriated for the program, upon the expira-
5 tion of that period; and

6 (2) in the case of any other program, upon the
7 adjournment sine die of any Congress.

8 (b) INAPPLICABILITY REQUIREMENT.—A law en-
9 acted after the date of enactment of this Act shall not
10 supersede subsection (a) unless it explicitly states the in-
11 applicability of that subsection.

12 **SEC. 3. POINT OF ORDER FOR LEGISLATION NOT CONTAIN-**
13 **ING AUTHORIZATION PERIOD.**

14 Rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representa-
15 tives is amended by adding at the end the following:

16 “9. It shall not be in order to consider a bill, joint
17 resolution, amendment, motion, conference report, concur-
18 rent resolution, or House resolution that authorizes or re-
19 quires the performance of any act that would result in the
20 obligation of appropriated amounts unless—

21 “(a) the bill, joint resolution, amendment, mo-
22 tion, conference report, concurrent resolution, or
23 House resolution includes a provision that specifies
24 a period for which such amounts are authorized to
25 be appropriated; or

1 “(b) there is in effect a law that authorizes, for
2 a specified period, the appropriation of amounts for
3 performing that act.”.

4 **SEC. 4. TERMINATION OF TAX PROVISIONS.**

5 No tax shall be imposed by the Internal Revenue
6 Code of 1986 (or any other internal revenue law) for any
7 period after the close of the 103d Congress, unless a later
8 date for such tax to terminate is specified by law.

9 **SEC. 5. POINT OF ORDER FOR TAX LEGISLATION NOT CON-**
10 **TAINING A TERMINATION DATE.**

11 Rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representa-
12 tives is amended by adding at the end the following:

13 “10. It shall not be in order to consider a bill, joint
14 resolution, amendment, motion, conference report, concur-
15 rent resolution, or House resolution providing for any tax
16 or any change affecting the revenue from any tax unless—

17 “(a) the bill, joint resolution, amendment, mo-
18 tion, conference report, concurrent resolution, or
19 House resolution includes a provision that specifies
20 a date on which such tax or change terminates; or

21 “(b) there is in effect a law that specifies a date
22 on which such tax or change terminates.”.

23 **SEC. 6. SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.**

24 It is the sense of the Congress that—

1 (1) clause 2 of Rule XXI of the Rules of the
2 House of Representatives clearly prohibits the Com-
3 mittee on Appropriations of the House of Represent-
4 atives from reporting in any general appropriations
5 bill—

6 (A) appropriations not previously author-
7 ized by law, and

8 (B) provisions changing existing law (ex-
9 cept retrenchments and rescissions of appro-
10 priations);

11 (2) that rule should be vigorously applied;

12 (3) Federal laws that affect the revenue of the
13 Federal Government—

14 (A) should be periodically reviewed by the
15 appropriate committees of the House of Rep-
16 resentatives and the Senate;

17 (B) should continue in effect after such re-
18 view only if determined by the Congress to be
19 necessary for the health of the economy of the
20 United States; and

21 (C) should not be effective after such re-
22 view if determined by the Congress to have an
23 adverse effect upon the economy of the United
24 States or to have outlived their intended pur-
25 poses; and

1 (4) reducing the debt of the Federal Govern-
2 ment is critical to the long-term health of the econ-
3 omy of the United States.

